question, who may offer a proper amendment or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon.'

Clearly, the vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Republican majority's agenda and allows those with alternative views the opportunity to offer an alternative plan.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. McGOVERN. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and navs.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 420 and the amendment thereto:

Adopting the amendment to House Resolution 420, if ordered; and

Adopting House Resolution 420, if or-

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5minute votes.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 348, RESPONSIBLY AND PROFESSIONALLY INVIGORATING DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2015: PRO-VIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 758, LAWSUIT ABUSE REDUC-TION ACT OF 2015; AND PRO-VIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS ТО SUSPEND THE RULES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the amendment and on the resolution (H. Res. 420) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 348) to provide for improved coordination of agency actions in the preparation and adoption of environmental documents for permitting determinations, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 758) to amend Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure to improve attorney accountability, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 238, nays 179, not voting 16, as follows:

### [Roll No. 497]

#### YEAS-238

Abraham Grothman Paulsen Aderholt Guinta. Pearce Allen Guthrie Perry Amash Hanna Pittenger Amodei Hardy Pitts Babin Harper Poe (TX) Barletta Harris Poliquin Barton Hartzler Pompeo Benishek Heck (NV) Posey Price, Tom Bilirakis Hensarling Bishop (MI) Herrera Beutler Ratcliffe Bishop (UT) Hice, Jody B. Reed Black Hill Reichert Holding Blackburn Renacci Hudson Blum Ribble Bost. Huelskamn Rice (SC) Huizenga (MI) Boustany Rigell Brady (TX) Hultgren Roby Brat. Hunter Roe (TN) Bridenstine Hurd (TX) Rogers (AL) Brooks (AL) Hurt (VA) Rogers (KY) Brooks (IN) Tssa. Rohrabacher Jenkins (KS) Buchanan Rokita Jenkins (WV) Buck Rooney (FL) Bucshon Johnson (OH) Ros-Lehtinen Johnson, Sam Burgess Roskam Byrne Jones Ross Jordan Calvert Rothfus Carter (GA) Joyce Rouzer Carter (TX) Katko Royce Kelly (MS) Chabot Russell Chaffetz Kelly (PA) Ryan (WI) Clawson (FL) King (IA) Salmon Coffman King (NY) Sanford Cole Kinzinger (IL) Scalise Collins (GA) Kline Schweikert Collins (NY) Knight Scott, Austin Comstock Labrador Sensenbrenner Conaway LaMalfa. Sessions Lamborn Cook Shimkus Costello (PA) Lance Shuster Cramer Latta Simpson Crawford LoBiondo Smith (MO) Crenshaw Long Smith (NE) Loudermilk Culberson Smith (NJ) Curbelo (FL) Love Smith (TX) Davis, Rodney Lucas Luetkemever Stefanik Denham Stewart Dent Lummis Stivers DeSantis MacArthur Stutzman DesJarlais Marchant Thornberry Diaz-Balart Marino Tiberi Massie McCarthy Dold Tipton Donovan Duffv McCaul Trott Turner Duncan (SC) McClintock Upton Duncan (TN) McHenry Valadao Ellmers (NC) McKinley Walberg Emmer (MN) McMorris Walden Farenthold Rodgers Fitzpatrick McSally Walker Walorski Fleischmann Meadows Meehan Walters, Mimi Fleming Weber (TX) Messer Webster (FL) Forbes Mica. Fortenberry Miller (FL) Wenstrup Miller (MI) Westerman Foxx Whitfield Franks (AZ) Moolenaar Mooney (WV) Frelinghuysen Williams Garrett Mullin Wilson (SC) Wittman Gibbs Mulvanev Murphy (PA) Gibson Womack Gohmert Neugebauer Woodall Goodlatte Newhouse Yoder Gosar Noem Yoho Gowdy Nugent Young (AK) Graves (GA) Nunes Young (IA) Young (IN) Graves (LA) Olson Graves (MO) Palazzo Zeldin Griffith Palmer Zinke

# NAYS-179

Adams

Aguilar

Ashford

Reatty

Becerra

Bass

Bever Bishop (GA) Blumenauer Bonamici Boyle, Brendan

Brady (PA)

Brown (FL)

Butterfield

Capps

Capuano

Brownley (CA)

Carney Carson (IN) Cartwright Castor (FL) Castro (TX) Chu, Judy Cicilline Clark (MA) Clarke (NY) Cleaver Clyburn Cohen Connolly Convers Cooper Costa Courtney Crowley Cuellar Cummings Davis (CA) Davis, Danny DeFazio DeGette Delaney DeLauro DelBene DeSaulnier Deutch Doggett Doyle, Michael F. Duckworth Edwards Ellison Engel Eshoo Estv Farr Fattah Foster Fudge Gabbard Gallego Garamendi Graham Grayson Green, Al Green, Gene Grijalva Gutiérrez Hahn Hastings Heck (WA) Higgins

Cárdenas Himes Hinojosa Honda. Hover Huffman Israel Jackson Lee Jeffries Johnson (GA) Johnson, E. B. Kaptur Keating Kelly (IL) Kennedy Kildee Kilmer Kind Kirkpatrick Kuster Langevin Larsen (WA) Larson (CT) Lawrence Lee Levin Lewis Lieu, Ted Lipinski Loebsack Lofgren Lowenthal Lowey Lujan Grisham (NM) Luján, Ben Ray (NM) Lynch Maloney. Carolyn Maloney, Sean Matsui McCollum McDermott McGovern McNerney Meeks Meng Moore Moulton Murphy (FL) Nadler Napolitano Nea1 Nolan Norcross O'Rourke

Pallone Pascrell Payne Perlmutter Peters Peterson Pingree Pocan Polis Price (NC) Quigley Rangel Rice (NY Richmond Rovbal-Allard Ruiz Ruppersberger Rush Ryan (OH) Sánchez, Linda т Sarbanes Schakowsky Schiff Schrader Scott (VA) Scott, David Serrano Sewell (AL) Sherman Sinema Sires Slaughter Speier Swalwell (CA) Takai Takano Thompson (MS) Titus Tonko Torres Tsongas Van Hollen Vargas Veasey Vela Velázguez Visclosky Walz Wasserman Schultz Waters, Maxine Watson Coleman Welch

## NOT VOTING-

Barr Frankel (FL) Bera. Granger Bustos Jolly Clay Pelosi Dingell Sanchez, Loretta Smith (WA)

Thompson (CA) Thompson (PA) Wagner Westmoreland

Wilson (FL)

Yarmuth

### $\Box$ 1458

Mr. MILLER of Florida changed his vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 497, had I been present, I would have voted

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast a vote on rollcall vote No. 497, ordering the previous question, because I was at the Pentagon Ceremony Recognizing the Heroism and Valor of Airman First Class Spencer Stone, Specialist Alek Skarlatos, and Mr. Anthony Sadler. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Washington, DC, September 11, 2015. Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,

The Speaker, House of Representatives,

 $Washington,\,DC.$ 

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I have the honor to transmit herewith a facsimile copy of a letter received from Mr. Steven S. Sandvoss. Executive Director, State Board of Elections for the State of Illinois, indicating that, according to the preliminary results of the Special Election held September 10, 2015, the Honorable Darin LaHood was elected Representative to Congress for the Eighteenth Congressional District, State of Illinois.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely.

KAREN L. HAAS,

Clerk.

Enclosure.

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS, STATE OF ILLINOIS, Springfield, IL, September 11, 2015. Hon. KAREN L. HAAS, Clerk, House of Representatives,

Washington, DC.
DEAR MS. HAAS: This is to advise you that the unofficial results of the Special Election held on Thursday, September 10, 2015, for Representative in Congress from the Eighteenth Congressional District of Illinois, show that Darin LaHood received 35.213 votes or 75% of the total number of votes cast for that office.

t would appear from these unoffiaial results that Darin LaHood was elected as Representative in Congress from the Eighteenth Congressional District of Illinois.

To the best of our knowledge and belief at this time, there is no contest to this election.

As soon as the official results are certified to this office by all 19 jurisdictions involved, an official Certificate of Election will be prepared for transmittal as required by law.

Sincerely,

STEVEN S. SANDVOSS, Executive Director.

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE DARIN LAHOOD, OF ILLINOIS, AS A MEMBER OF THE

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, as the dean of the Illinois delegation, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Illinois, the Honorable DARIN LAHOOD, be permitted to take the oath of office today.

His certificate of election has not arrived, but there is no contest and no question has been raised with regard to

his election.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. Will Representativeelect Lahood and the members of the Illinois delegation present themselves in the well.

All Members will rise, and the Representative-elect will please raise his right hand.

Mr. LAHOOD appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies. foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same: that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to

enter, so help you God.
The SPEAKER. Congratulations, you are now a Member of the 114th Con-

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE DARIN LAHOOD TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. Without objection, gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GUTIÉRREZ) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection. Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. DARIN LAHOOD is a central Illinois native who was born and raised in Peoria, Illinois. He comes to the U.S. Congress after serving over 4 years in the Illinois State Senate. Before that, he was a State and Federal prosecutor; an assistant United States attorney; an assistant State's attorney in Cook County in the narcotics unit; and a felony prosecutor in Tazewell County. He is known for his work fighting terrorism and making America safer.

On a personal note, DARIN's dad was former Member of the House Ray LaHood.

I would just like to hasten to add that I can't think of a Member of the House that I love or care for more than Ray LaHood. And I just want to say to his son, everybody keeps saying: Who is the new Congressman? Everybody says: Well, that is Ray LaHood's son. Well, pretty soon—I want to make evervone know—he is going to be known for a lot more than that. But what a wonderful beginning.

I yield to my colleague from the

State of Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS).

Mr. SHIMKUS. I thank my colleague. I don't have much to add. We are glad to have DARIN here as a new Member of the 114th Congress. Obviously, he is joined by his dad. Also who we had hoped was going to be here—but I know he is watching—is former Minority Leader Bob Michel, who is really part of the LaHood clan, and we think of him as we swear in DARIN.

DARIN has already hit the ground running, and I can speak for all my colleagues here, DARIN, that we will do all we can to help you be successful.

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to say that I can't wait to work with him. And I know very soon that former Congressman Ray LaHood is going to be known as his father.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to now welcome the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LAHOOD).

Mr. Lahood. I thank Speaker Boeh-

NER for swearing me in today.

Mr. Speaker, it is a true honor to be here. I am humbled and honored to be a part of this body. And I want to thank my colleagues—Congressman SHIMKUS, Congressman GUTIÉRREZ, and the rest of the Illinois delegation—for being here today. I look forward to working with them and being a productive Member of this body.

I would just like to thank my constituents that voted for me in this special election. We worked hard over the last 6 months in this race, and I am proud to be entrusted with the responsibility that 710,000 people gave me in my district in Illinois. I am proud of that district, and I am proud of my record in the State Senate. Again, I look forward to bringing the values that I have had in Illinois to this body.

I also want to thank my family. The family is the pride and joy of who I am. I have my three boys up here today— McKay, who is 13; Teddy, who is 8; Lucas, who is 11—and my wife Kristen, who is in the gallery. I couldn't do this without her.

Kristen, please stand up.

I guess I would just say that I look forward to working hard in this body, to meeting my colleagues, doing a lot of listening, and doing a lot of learning to be the best Member of Congress I can be

I also want to thank my mom and dad and my extended family for being here.

I am proud to be the son of Ray and Kathy LaHood and the values that they instilled in me: faith, family, working hard, remembering where you came from, doing the best job you can for the people you represent, and staying grounded in your district.

I couldn't be prouder to be here today with the legacy in this district going back to Abraham Lincoln; and Bob Michel for 38 years, who I am sorry couldn't be here today. When I think about Bob Michel and think about 71 years ago he began his service to this country on the beaches of Normandy and spent 38 years in this body representing Peoria, and then he, during his time when Reagan was here, ushered in Reagan's values to help change this country, to have that legacy means so much.

I know I have got a lot to learn. I look forward to hitting the ground running, being the best Member of Congress that I can, and working hard for my district.

Thank you very much.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LAHOOD), the whole number of the House is 435.

### PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. ROBY). The gentleman from Colorado will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, does this martial law amendment mean that any bill next week can be brought up without the 24-hour notice that we normally have to read a bill directly to the floor?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will not interpret the pending proposition.

Mr. POLIS. Well, Madam Speaker, that is the plain language of this amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the adoption of the amendment to House Resolution 420 offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS).

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

#### RECORDED VOTE

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

Gowdy

Abraham

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 237, noes 187, not voting 10, as follows:

## [Roll No. 498] AYES—237

Moolenaar

Mooney (WV) Aderholt Granger Allen Amodei Graves (GA) Mullin Mulvaney Graves (LA) Graves (MO) Babin Murphy (PA) Barletta Griffith Neugebauer Grothman Newhouse Barton Benishek Guinta Noem Bilirakis Guthrie Nugent Bishop (MI) Hanna Nunes Bishop (UT) Hardy Olson Black Harper Palazzo Blackburn Palmer Harris Paulsen Blum Hartzler Bost Heck (NV) Pearce Boustany Hensarling Perry Brady (TX) Herrera Beutler Pittenger Brat Hice, Jody B. Pitts Bridenstine Poe (TX) Brooks (IN) Holding Poliquin Hudson Buchanan Pompeo Huelskamp Price, Tom Buck Huizenga (MI) Bucshon Ratcliffe Burgess Hultgren Reed Reichert Byrne Hunter Hurd (TX) Calvert Renacci Carter (GA) Hurt (VA) Ribble Carter (TX) Rice (SC) Jenkins (KS) Chabot Rigell Jenkins (WV) Chaffetz Roby Clawson (FL) Johnson (OH) Roe (TN) Coffman Johnson Sam Rogers (AL) Cole Jolly Rogers (KY) Collins (GA) Jordan Rohrabacher Collins (NY) Joyce Rokita. Rooney (FL) Katko Comstock Conaway Kelly (MS) Ros-Lehtinen Cook Kelly (PA) Roskam Costello (PA) King (IA) Ross Cramer King (NY) Rothfus Crawford Kinzinger (IL) Rouzer Crenshaw Kline Royce Culberson Knight Russell Curbelo (FL) Ryan (WI) Labrador Davis, Rodney LaHood Salmon Denham La.Ma.lfa Sanford Lamborn Scalise Dent DeSantis Schweikert Lance DesJarlais Latta Scott, Austin Diaz-Balart LoBiondo Sensenbrenner Dold Long Sessions Loudermilk Donovan Shimkus Duffv Love Shuster Duncan (SC) Lucas Simpson Duncan (TN) Luetkemeyer Smith (MO) Ellmers (NC) Smith (NE) Lummis Emmer (MN) MacArthur Smith (NJ) Farenthold Marchant Smith (TX) Fitzpatrick Marino Stefanik Stewart Fleischmann McCarthy Fleming McCaul Stivers McClintock Flores Stutzman Forbes McHenry Thompson (PA) Fortenberry McKinley Thornberry Foxx McMorris Tiberi Franks (AZ) Rodgers Tipton Frelinghuysen McSally Trott Garrett Meadows Turner Gibbs Meehan Messer Upton Valadao Gibson Walberg Gohmert Mica Miller (FL) Goodlatte Walden Gosar Miller (MI) Walker

Walorski Walters, Mimi Weber (TX) Webster (FL) Wenstrup Westerman Whitfield

Adams

Aguilar

Amash

Bass

Bera

Beyer

F.

Bustos

Capps

Capuano

Cárdenas

Carney Carson (IN)

Cartwright

Castor (FL)

Castro (TX)

Chu. Judy

Clark (MA)

Clarke (NY)

Cicilline

Clay

Cleaver

Clyburn

Connolly

Conyers

Cooper

Courtney

Crowley

Cuellar

Cummings

Davis (CA)

DeFazio

DeGette

Delaney

DeLauro

DelBene

Deutch

Doggett

Edwards

Ellison

Engel

Eshoo

Estv

Farr

Fattah

Foster

F

DeSaulnier

Duckworth

Doyle, Michael

Davis, Danny

Costa

Cohen

Bishop (GA)

Blumenauer

Boyle, Brendan

Bonamici

Brady (PA)

Brooks (AL)

Brown (FL)

Butterfield

Brownley (CA)

Beatty

Becerra

Ashford

Williams Wilson (SC) Wittman Womack Woodall Yoder Yoho Young (AK) Young (IA) Young (IN) Zeldin Zinke

NOES-187 Frankel (FL) Moulton Murphy (FL) Fudge Gabbard Nadler Napolitano Gallego Garamendi Nea1 Graham Nolan Grayson Norcross Green, Al O'Rourke Green, Gene Pallone Grijalya. Pascrell Gutiérrez Payne Hahn Perlmutter Hastings Peters Heck (WA) Peterson Higgins Pingree Himes Pocan Hinojosa Polis Honda Price (NC) Hover Quigley Huffman Rangel Israel Rice (NY) Jackson Lee Richmond Jeffries Roybal-Allard Johnson (GA) Johnson, E. B. Ruppersberger Jones Rush Kaptur Ryan (OH) Keating Sánchez, Linda Kelly (IL) T. Kennedy Sarbanes Kildee Schakowsky Kilmer Schiff Kind Schrader Kirkpatrick Scott (VA) Kuster Scott, David Langevin Serrano Larsen (WA) Sewell (AL) Larson (CT) Sherman Lawrence Sinema Lee Levin Slaughter Lewis Lieu, Ted Speier Swalwell (CA) Lipinski Takai Loebsack Takano Lofgren Thompson (MS) Lowenthal Titus Lowey Lujan Grisham Tonko Torres (NM) Tsongas Luján, Ben Ray Van Hollen (NM) Vargas Lynch Veasey Maloney, Carolyn Vela. Velázquez Maloney, Sean Visclosky Massie Matsui Walz Wasserman McCollum McDermottSchultzWaters, Maxine McGovern Watson Coleman McNerney Meeks Welch

## NOT VOTING—10

Wilson (FL)

Yarmuth

Barr Posey Wagner
Dingell Sanchez, Loretta Westmoreland
Fincher Smith (WA)
Pelosi Thompson (CA)

Meng

Moore

## □ 1517

So the amendment was agreed to. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution, as amended.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

### RECORDED VOTE

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 238, noes 183, not voting 13, as follows:

#### [Roll No. 499]

AYES-238 Abraham Grothman Pearce Aderholt Guinta Perry Allen Guthrie Pittenger Amodei Hanna Pitts Babin Hardy Poe (TX) Barletta Harper Poliquin Barton Harris Pompeo Posey Benishek Hartzler Bilirakis Heck (NV) Price, Tom Ratcliffe Bishop (MI) Hensarling Herrera Beutler Bishop (UT) Reed Black Hice, Jody B. Reichert Blackburn Hill Renacci Blum Holding Ribble Bost Hudson Rice (SC) Huelskamp Boustany Rigell Huizenga (MI) Brady (TX) Roby Hultgren Brat Roe (TN) Bridenstine Hunter Rogers (AL) Brooks (AL) Hurd (TX) Rogers (KY) Hurt (VA) Brooks (IN) Rohrabacher Buchanan Tssa. Rokita. Jenkins (KS) Buck Rooney (FL) Bucshon Jenkins (WV) Ros-Lehtinen Burgess Johnson (OH) Roskam Byrne Johnson, Sam Ross Calvert Jolly Rothfus Carter (GA) Jordan Rouzer Carter (TX) Joyce Rovce Chabot Katko Russell Kelly (MS) Chaffetz Ryan (WI) Clawson (FL) Kelly (PA) Salmon Coffman King (IA) Sanford Cole King (NY) Scalise Collins (GA) Kinzinger (IL) Schweikert Kline Knight Collins (NY) Scott, Austin Comstock Sensenbrenner Conaway Labrador Sessions Cook hooHe-I Shimkus Costello (PA) LaMalfa Shuster Cramer Lamborn Simpson Crawford Lance Smith (MO) Crenshaw Latta Smith (NE) Culberson LoBiondo Smith (NJ) Curbelo (FL) Long Loudermilk Smith (TX) Davis, Rodney Stefanik Denham Love Stewart Dent Lucas DeSantis Luetkemeyer Stivers Stutzman DesJarlais Lummis Thompson (PA) Diaz-Balart MacArthur Thornberry Dold Marchant Tiberi Donovan Marino Tipton Duffy McCarthy Duncan (SC) Trott McCaul Turner Duncan (TN) McClintock Upton Ellmers (NC) McHenry McKinley Valadao Emmer (MN) Walberg Farenthold McMorris Walden Fitzpatrick Rodgers Walker Fleischmann McSallv Walorski Fleming Meadows Walters, Mimi Flores Meehan Forbes Messer Weber (TX) Fortenberry Mica Webster (FL) Miller (FL) Wenstrup Foxx Franks (AZ) Miller (MI) Westerman Frelinghuysen Moolenaar Whitfield Mooney (WV) Williams Garrett Gibbs Mullin Wilson (SC) Murphy (PA) Gibson Wittman Gohmert Neugebauer Womack Goodlatte Newhouse Woodall Gosar Noem Yoder Gowdy Nugent Yoho Granger Nunes Young (AK) Graves (GA) Olson Young (IA) Young (IN) Graves (LA) Palazzo Graves (MO) Palmer Zeldin Griffith Paulsen Zinke

## NOES—183

Brady (PA) Adams Bera Aguilar Beyer Brown (FL) Amash Bishop (GA) Brownley (CA) Ashford Blumenauer Bustos Bass Bonamici Butterfield Boyle, Brendan Beatty Capps Capuano Becerra

Cárdenas Honda. Carney Hoyer Carson (IN) Huffman Cartwright Israel Jackson Lee Castor (FL) Castro (TX) Jeffries Johnson (GA) Chu, Judy Cicilline Johnson, E. B. Clarke (NY) Jones Clav Kaptur Cleaver Keating Clyburn Kelly (IL) Cohen Kennedy Connolly Cooper Kilmer Costa Kind Courtney Kirkpatrick Crowley Kuster Cuellar Langevin Cummings Larsen (WA) Davis (CA) Larson (CT) Davis, Danny Lawrence DeGette Levin Delanev DeLauro Lewis DelBene Lieu, Ted DeSaulnier Lipinski Loebsack Deutch Lofgren Doggett Lowenthal Dovle, Michael Lowey Duckworth Lujan Grisham Edwards Luján, Ben Ray Ellison Engel Lvnch Eshoo Esty Maloney, Farr Fattah Maloney, Sean Foster Massie Frankel (FL) Matsui McCollum Fudge Gabbard McDermott Gallego McGovern

Pascrell Pavne Perlmutter Peters Peterson Pingree Pocan Polis Price (NC) Quigley Rangel Rice (NY) Richmond Rovbal-Allard Ruiz Ruppersberger Rush Rvan (OH) Sánchez, Linda Sarbanes Schakowsky Schiff Schrader Scott (VA) Scott, David Serrano Sewell (AL) Sherman Sinema. Sires Slaughter Speier Swalwell (CA) Takai Takano Thompson (MS) Titus

Tonko

Torres

Tsongas

Vargas

Veasey

Vela

Walz

Welch

Van Hollen

Velázguez

Visclosky

Wasserman

Schultz

Wilson (FL)

Yarmuth

Waters, Maxine

Watson Coleman

### NOT VOTING-13

(NM)

(NM)

Carolyn

McNerney

Meeks

Meng

Moore

Nadler

Nea1

Nolan

Norcross

O'Rourke

Napolitano

Moulton Murphy (FL)

Barr Clark (MA) Convers DeFazio

Garamendi

Graham

Gravson

Grijalya.

Gutiérrez

Hastings

Higgins

Hinoiosa

Himes

Heck (WA)

Hahn

Green, Al

Green, Gene

Fincher Thompson (CA) Mulvaney Wagner Pelosi Westmoreland Sanchez, Loretta Smith (WA)

### □ 1524

So the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I unfortunately missed the vote on adoption of H. Res. 420. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

## LAWSUIT ABUSE REDUCTION ACT OF 2015

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 420, I call up the bill (H.R. 758) to amend Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure to improve attorney accountability, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FLEISCHMANN). Pursuant to House Resolution 420, the bill is considered read. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 758

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act of 2015"

#### SEC. 2. ATTORNEY ACCOUNTABILITY.

- (a) SANCTIONS UNDER RULE 11.—Rule 11(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is amended-
- (1) in paragraph (1), by striking "may" and inserting "shall";
- (2) in paragraph (2), by striking "Rule 5" and all that follows through "motion." and inserting "Rule 5."; and
- (3) in paragraph (4), by striking "situated" and all that follows through the end of the paragraph and inserting "situated, and to compensate the parties that were injured by such conduct. Subject to the limitations in paragraph (5), the sanction shall consist of an order to pay to the party or parties the amount of the reasonable expenses incurred as a direct result of the violation, including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs. The court may also impose additional appropriate sanctions, such as striking the pleadings, dismissing the suit, or other directives of a non-monetary nature, or, if warranted for effective deterrence, an order directing payment of a penalty into the court.'
- (b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act or an amendment made by this Act shall be construed to bar or impede the assertion or development of new claims, defenses, or remedies under Federal, State, or local laws, including civil rights laws, or under the Constitution of the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE).

### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on H.R. 758, currently under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Speaker, H.R. 758, the Lawsuit Mr. Abuse Reduction Act, would restore mandatory sanctions for frivolous lawsuits filed in Federal Court. Many Americans may not realize it, but today, under what is called rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, there is no requirement that those who file frivolous lawsuits pay for the unjustified legal costs they impose on their victims, even when those victims prove to a judge the lawsuit was without any basis in law or fact. As a result, the current rule 11 goes largely unenforced, because the victims of frivolous lawsuits have little incentive to pursue additional litigation to have the case declared frivolous when there is no guarantee of compensation at the end of the day.

H.R. 758 would finally provide light at the end of the tunnel for the victims

of frivolous lawsuits by requiring sanctions against the filers of frivolous lawsuits, sanctions which include paying back victims for the full costs of their reasonable expenses incurred as a direct result of the rule 11 violation, including attorneys' fees.

The bill also strikes the current provisions in rule 11 that allow lawyers to avoid sanctions for making frivolous claims and demands by simply withdrawing them within 21 days. This change eliminates the free pass lawyers now have to file frivolous lawsuits in Federal Court.

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The current lack of mandatory sanctions leads to the regular filing of lawsuits that are clearly baseless. So many frivolous pleadings currently go under the radar because the lack of mandatory sanctions for frivolous filings forces victims of frivolous lawsuits to roll over and settle the case because doing that is less expensive than litigating the case to a victory in court.

Correspondence written by someone filing a frivolous lawsuit, which became public, concisely illustrates how the current lack of mandatory sanctions for filing frivolous lawsuits leads to legal extortion.

That correspondence to the victim of a frivolous lawsuit states. "I really don't care what the law allows you to do. It's a more practical issue. Do you want to send your attorney a check every month indefinitely as I continue to pursue this?"

Under the Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act, those who file frivolous lawsuits would no longer be able to get off scotfree; and, therefore, they could not get away with those sorts of extortionary threats any longer.

The victims of lawsuit abuse are not just those who are actually sued. Rather, we all suffer under a system in which innocent Americans everywhere live under the constant fear of a potentially bankrupting frivolous lawsuit.

As the former chairman of The Home Depot company has written, "An unpredictable legal system casts a shadow over every plan and investment. It is devastating for start-ups. The cost of even one ill-timed abusive lawsuit can bankrupt a growing company and cost hundreds of thousands of jobs.'

The prevalence of frivolous lawsuits in America is reflected in the absurd warning labels companies must place on their products to limit their exposure to frivolous claims.

A 5-inch brass fishing lure with three hooks is labeled "Harmful if swallowed." A Vanishing Fabric Marker warns it "Should not be used . . . for signing checks or any legal documents, as signatures will . . . disappear completely."

A household iron contains the warning "Never iron clothes while they are being worn." A piece of ovenware warns "Ovenware will get hot when used in oven." A hair dryer warns "Never use while sleeping."